

The Pensacola Journal

Daily. Weekly. Sunday.
PUBLISHED EVERY MORNING EXCEPT MONDAY.

—BY—
THE JOURNAL COMPANY.

FRANK L. MAYES, PRESIDENT AND GENERAL MANAGER.

MEMBER THE ASSOCIATED PRESS.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

One Year.....\$5 00	One Month..... 45
Six Months..... 2 50	One Week..... 10
Three Months..... 1 25	Weekly Edition, year, \$1 00

Papers on Sale at all News Stands.

THE ONLY PENSACOLA NEWSPAPER FROM WHICH A DETAILED CIRCULATION STATEMENT CAN BE SECURED.

Offices—108 and 110 East Government Street.
TELEPHONE No. 38.

PENSACOLA, FLORIDA, TUESDAY, MARCH 14, 1905.

The Daily News Explains Its Position on the Primary.

Stung, no doubt, by the storm of adverse comment which its opposition to the white primary for municipal nominations has called forth, the Daily News finds it advisable to explain its position, and in doing so it can find nothing better to say than the following:

The Daily News would like, in as few words as possible, to make its position with regard to the primary for the nomination of city officers clearly understood.

To begin with, the Daily News is not opposed to a city primary and knows of no good reason why it should be; but at the same time it contends that the calling of a democratic primary election should be in deference to the wishes of the people expressed in some manner, and not at the instigation of a few politicians who are aspirants for office and who think they see in it some advantage to themselves.

Furthermore, when the county committee takes action in the matter there should be no doubt as to the legality and regularity of their procedure; and, besides, its fairness should be unquestioned.

It is because the wishes of the people were not consulted, and because the regularity of the proceedings of the county committee have been called in question, and because only one of the two recognized factions of the party has received any consideration in the appointment of the city executive committee that the Daily News is opposed to the city primary proposed to be held to elect city officers for the next two years.

That there has been no expression of any demand on the part of the democratic voters of the city for such action as has been taken by the county committee everybody well knows, so there can be no disputing that point.

A regards the regularity of the proceedings, the county committee is composed of 22 members (one from each precinct) besides a chairman and secretary, and seven constitutes a quorum sufficient to do business. At the meeting which took action on the primary matter it is alleged that five members were present with the chairman and secretary, making seven in all, but the chairman has no vote except in case of a tie and the Daily News is informed by pretty good authority that the secretary has no vote in the committee.

This being the case, was there a proper quorum of the committee at the meeting? Opinions differ on this point and some well-informed citizens claim that it was not a quorum of voting members. So there seems good ground for complaint that the proceedings were not regular, and that two or three men have dictated to all the voters of the city how they shall choose their officers.

It is well known that there are two factions of the democratic party in the city; and in the selection of the city committee only persons belonging to one of these factions were given place, thus putting all the power for directing the city politics into the hands of that faction. This is not in the interest of party harmony or party success, since it is not fair to all democrats.

Resentment for this unfair treatment may cause many democrats to refuse to participate in the primary which is engineered by a faction of the party with which they are not in sympathy.

So it can be stated that the Daily News is not objecting to a city primary, but to the scheme which is being worked in the interest of the leaders of a faction of the party.

This somewhat lengthy explanation may be satisfactory from the News's standpoint, but we fancy it will have to be made a little plainer before our contemporary's position is "clearly understood" by the general public.

Simmered down, the News's opposition to the primary, as expressed in the above, is founded on but three reasons—(1) what it alleges as the irregularity of the county executive committee's action; (2) its claim that some faction of the party has been treated unfairly; and (3) its contention that there has been no demand by the people for the primary.

These objections are not only weak, but they are absolutely puerile. The action of the committee was regular in every respect and the News knows it. But whether it was regular or not, the primary itself is the proposition which the News is now up against—is the primary a good thing or a bad thing? That is the question which it could, with more logic, attempt to answer.

Its charge of unfairness is even weaker and smacks strongly of the baby act. What has there been unfair in anything which the city committee has done?

OR DOES THE NEWS MEAN TO INSINUATE THAT THE GENTLEMEN WHO COMPOSE THAT COMMITTEE—JNO. B. JONES, CAPT. I. H. AIKEN, DR. W. E. ANDERSON, WALKER INGRAHAM AND C. M. JONES, HAVE COMMITTED OR ARE LIKELY TO COMMIT FRAUD IN THE HOLDING OF THE PRIMARY?

Let the News explain what it means.

The third objection made by the News is, in effect, that there has been no demand from any source for a white primary. This, the News knows, is absolutely untrue, and it has only to consult its own files of less than two years ago to prove its own stultification.

As the News would probably object to doing this, The Journal will proceed to favor the public with a little newspaper-file history, and not very old history, either. On the afternoon of June 29, 1903—less than two years ago—the Pensacola News contained the following editorial:

REGARDING CITY ELECTIONS.
It is a matter of more or less speculation among many of our citizens as to how it happens that Pensacola has so far failed to adopt the primary system in her city elections. They wonder if our city is behind the times in this as in some other respects. They say that all the other cities of the state, that are in our class, conduct their municipal elections by the primary plan, and cite the recent election in Jacksonville as a case in point.

It is suggested that an expression of the wishes of the people in regard to the matter be taken on the day of the bond election. That separate boxes be provided and the opportunity be offered to vote "For White City Primary," or "Against White City Primary," and if it is found that a large majority favor primaries, let the system be employed in the next municipal election.

How does this sound as compared with the News's present contention that there has been no demand for a primary?

But that is not all, nor is it the worst feature of the case as far as the News is concerned.

In line with the News's suggestion of June 29, 1903, as to taking a test vote on the primary proposition, The Journal went to the expense of printing ballots, procuring ballot boxes, and hiring elite inspectors to hold the very election which the News proposed. On Thursday morning, July 2, 1903—three days after the News made its white primary suggestion—The Journal established a ballot box at each precinct in the city, each box in charge of two inspectors, and as the voters passed out after voting in the Bond Election, they also took a vote on the White Primary matter. That vote was cast as follows:

FOR A WHITE PRIMARY.....	425
AGAINST A WHITE PRIMARY.....	41
MAJORITY FOR WHITE PRIMARY.....	384

The News, at that time, felt somewhat chagrined over the fact that while it had been lying back "suggesting" how an expression of sentiment on the White Primary might be secured, The Journal with its usual enterprise, had

gone ahead and secured that expression of sentiment. In order, therefore, that while the public was congratulating The Journal on its enterprise, it should not overlook the fact that the News had originated the idea, that paper in a following issue republished its editorial on the White Primary and then added:

Having these facts in view, the News feels called upon to congratulate The Journal upon its enterprise "if not originality."

At the same time—or rather on the day following the Bond Election—there appeared in the Tallahassee Capital, which is owned by the same gentlemen who owns and controls the Pensacola News, the following Pensacola special:

A side election was held to-day in connection with the bond election to determine whether future nominations for city offices shall be made in white Primary Elections. The movement in favor of White Primaries, DESIGNED TO ELIMINATE THE PURCHASABLE AND DISTURBING NEGRO ELEMENT from participation in city elections, WAS INAUGURATED BY THE PENSACOLA NEWS, and attracted scarcely less attention than the bond issue. The advocates of White Primaries won out in the popular vote by a majority of 384, there being only 41 votes against this proposition.

The above special to the Tallahassee Capital was sent out by an attaché of the Pensacola News, and he ought to have known what he was talking about—as no doubt he did.

The movement "inaugurated by the News" less than two years ago and designed, as the above says, to "eliminate the purchasable and disturbing negro element" does not seem to find so much favor with that sprightly paper now.

Or it is possible that the News, in contemplation of the fact that it and its friends may want the votes of the colored brethren in the city election, does not now care to antagonize the "purchasable and disturbing negro element" which it wanted to get rid of less than two years ago?

We greatly fear that our contemporary has dug a little hole for itself that it will have a hard time getting out of.

In the meantime, the White Primary is finding friends on all sides and regardless of the opposition which the News and its political advisors is trying to stir up, the aforesaid opposition obstinately refuses to "stir," and the prospect of a clean white campaign—and of the good government which will follow it—is getting brighter every day.

Tampa is again to demonstrate her progressiveness by holding next winter the most successful state fair of Florida's history, not being content to rest upon the laurels won at the great South Florida Fair and Mid-Winter Exposition last fall. In the next fair all counties in Florida are to be represented, also Cuba and other West Indian islands. To carry out the gigantic plans contemplated the Florida State-Mid-Winter Fair Association, to include officers, directors and stockholders of every county in the state, in order that all may have equal representation is being organized, and a charter will be granted by the state this month. Mr. T. J. L. Brown, who so successfully conducted the South Florida Fair, is at the head of the new movement, and is supported by the railways and many prominent citizens and experienced fair workers, guaranteeing the success of the venture. Every county in Florida should be represented by exhibits and there should be no delay in preparing them.

The Jacksonville Sun has moved into its new quarters and is now printed on a modern web perfecting press. No daily paper that amounts to much can be got out on any other kind of a press now. The Journal, itself, installed a perfecting press, with stereotyping plant, nearly a year ago, and the strides which the paper has been able to make since then over anything in its territory, shows what can be done with the proper ability and proper equipment. The Sun ought to shine with unusual brilliancy now.

An ad reads: "Wanted—A white house keeper." No, it was not inserted by Uncle Sam.

The Taylor County Topics places its subscription price at \$100 a year. Editor Jeff Davis is issuing a paper

which ought to be worth very nearly that amount.

An exchange reports a lecture on "Fools" in 26 lines. That is about all they—both topic and lecture—are usually worth.

VOX POPULI.

IF CITY WILL START WORK NATURE WILL FINISH IT.

Pensacola, Fla., March 13, 1905.
Editor Pensacola Journal:

I read with a great deal of interest the article of Chas. H. Bliss on city parks in your issue of last Sunday. To my mind there is no question of more vital importance to the prosperity and future growth of this city than the one so ably brought to the attention of the general public by Mr. Bliss.

That it is only too true that the city is absolutely without a public park, where the ladies and children may walk away an afternoon goes without saying. It is noticed and commented upon by the thousands of visitors to Pensacola. Those who come here to spend the winter and enjoy our sunny and beautiful climate must either stay in doors or stand upon their feet until worn out.

The suggestion of Mr. Bliss that the property of the city located on beautiful Bayou Texar be improved and converted into a public park is a good one indeed. With a little enterprise upon the part of the city and a small sum of money would make this a most beautiful park, and in a few years time would be visited by thousands of people.

We trust that the suggestion of Mr. Bliss will be taken up and that a start will be made at once toward supplying this much needed improvement.

If the city would only clear out the underbrush and plant trees, palms, etc., nature would do the rest, and in a very few years we could have a park that an could point to with pride.

Respectfully, J. H. L.

Railroad Rates and

How Rebates Are Made.

Philadelphia Inquirer.

The railways have had their way, and the bill passed by the house giving the Interstate Commerce Commission virtual control of railroad rates, and providing a special court of appeal will fall with the expiration of congress on Saturday next. In place of legislation will come summer meetings of the senate committee on Interstate Commerce for the consideration of the subject. This course has been decided upon.

It may not be an unimproved evil. As a matter of fact, there is seldom complaint about transportation rates as scheduled. As a rule, they are fair and decidedly low when compared with rates abroad. The railroads object to placing in the hands of lawyers unfamiliar with traffic a practical domination over rates. There is some force in the argument. We do not believe that the roads would be injured under proper supervision as suggested, but perhaps it is just as well to grant time, rather than jump into hasty legislation. In order that an attempt may be made to promote harmony among all interests. In the end some such bill as that of the house no doubt will be adopted.

But it is not the transportation rate shoe that pinches. What congress must do, if it is to give everybody a fair chance and a square deal, is to make it impossible for trusts to secure rebates from the roads, for it is upon the rebates that they thrive. There is the great evil. President Roosevelt in his message to congress, expressed the opinion that this question of rebates is the most important one now before the country. We quite agree with him. Law, drastic, far reaching, law that will imprison rather than fine, is needed to reach them.

There is certain existing law prohibiting rebates, but apparently it does not meet requirements. The technical rebate which the law aims

to abolish may be a thing of the past, but it exists in different forms nevertheless. The Beef Trust, for instance, does not receive what is known on the books of the railroad companies as rebates, but it forces its private cars upon the companies and demands and receives large payments for their use. A private car is charged up to the railroad at a given sum a mile, and the sum is sufficient to make a profit even if the car is run empty.

The private car, therefore, becomes a tremendous weapon in the hands of the trust, for an independent firm could not get a foothold. It would be refused similar privileges. It could not exist. The private track is another form which the rebate takes. You will not find a rebate carried on the books as paid the Standard Oil Company, but it is given tremendous advantages just the same. For instance, there is the scheme for oiling cars, engines, the rolling stock in general of railroads that the Standard's business. The Standard through a subsidiary company takes the contract for supplying the oil and the labor, and the prices charged are out of all proportion to the service rendered. They amount to a rebate sufficient to make it impossible for an independent concern to pay full freight rates and live.

Cunning and ingenious in the extreme are the devices schemes adopted for securing an unfair advantage. And hard it will be to meet some of these schemes and overthrow them, but congress must do it if there is to be a square deal.

The private car, the private track, the rebate in any form must go. Nor do the railroads object to a sweeping reform in this direction. They would welcome it as a rule, for they are not their own masters. They, as well as the people, are in the grasp of the Standard and the Beef Trust.

Your heart beats 100,000 times each day!

Put your finger on your pulse and feel the blood rushing by. Good blood or bad blood? Good health or bad health? You know. Your doctor will tell you his experience with Ayer's Sarsaparilla in these cases. Sold for sixty years. J. C. Ayer & Co., Lowell, Mass.

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will receive prompt attention.

Objections to the rebates are met with the threat of a transfer of business to other lines.

So it is quite possible that an understanding can be reached as a basis for legislation that will be of immense value. When the roads are all placed on the same basis, when one of them can be convinced that another will not secure an advantage, the whole system can be wiped out.

It is a great and exceedingly important question, and one which will tax the wisdom of congress. Perhaps, on the whole, it is just as well that the senate committee shall have the opportunity of studying it.

SAID OF PENSACOLA AND PENSACOLIANS.

A Grand Success.
Pensacola's Mardi Gras was a grand success. Pensacola never does things by halves.—Gainesville Sun.

Failure in One Way.
Pensacola is to have an eight story sky-scraper. Pensacola is always figuring on tall things, but Pensacolians can't get to heaven by the tall building route.—Apalachicola Times.

Aided by Nature.
Pensacola's two ice factories have consolidated. They have been greatly aided the past few months by a general supply of ice produced by the weather.—Jacksonville Metropolis.

Balky Steam Boilers.
According to an engineer, though there may be every reason present why a steam boiler should steam there are occasions when it simply will not. It refuses duty and sulks without any cause that can be detected. On such occasions every one takes a hand at the fire, but the result is the same—no steam or only enough to keep three-quarters speed. Marine and stationary boilers are both thus afflicted. There are "good days" and "bad days" in the performance of each.—Chicago News.

Get Busy.
The successful man is usually busy, and the busy man is usually successful. The young man, whatever his vocation, who has not learned to economize his time and keep busy has not got the lesson most essential to a prosperous, useful and happy life.—Chicago Tribune.

A Great Combination.
"You and your husband have lived together twenty-five years and never had a quarrel? What's the secret?"
"No secret at all. I'm too good natured to quarrel, and he's too indolent."—Exchange.

Beyond Reason.
There be two individuals who cannot be reasoned with—a girl in love and a man who is determined to run for an office.—New Orleans Picayune.

Love is never afraid of overwork.—Chicago Tribune.

Political Announcements.

FOR MAYOR.

I hereby announce myself a candidate for mayor of the city of Pensacola, subject to the action of the primary to be held April 4, 1905.
FRANK REILLY.

FOR CITY TREASURER.

The friends of W. K. Hyer, Sr., announce him as a candidate for City Treasurer, subject to the action of the Democratic Primary.

FOR CITY TREASURER.

I hereby announce myself a candidate for City Treasurer, subject to the action of the coming primary.
MANSFIELD MORENO.

FOR ALDERMAN, PRECINCT 12.
I hereby announce myself a candidate for precinct alderman from Precinct 12, subject to the action of the coming democratic primary.
A. H. D'ALEMBERT.

FOR ALDERMAN PRECINCT 14.
I hereby announce my candidacy as alderman from Precinct 14, subject to the action of the coming primary.
JAS. McHUGH.

FOR ALDERMAN PRECINCT 15.
I hereby announce myself a candidate for Alderman at Large from Precinct 15, subject to the action of the coming primary.
WM. HAYS.

FOR ALDERMAN, PRECINCT 12.
I hereby announce my candidacy for precinct alderman from Precinct 12, subject to the action of the primary of April 4, next.
W. B. WRIGHT.

The Journal Printed During February, 1905, a Total of

100,965 Copies
Or an Average of 4,207 Daily.

The following figures show The Pensacola Journal's circulation for each day during the month of February, 1905, with the average number of copies daily:

Feb. 1.... 4,050	Feb. 15.... 4,175
Feb. 2.... 4,050	Feb. 16.... 4,175
Feb. 3.... 4,050	Feb. 17.... 4,175
Feb. 4.... 4,050	Feb. 18.... 4,175
Feb. 5.... 4,250	Feb. 19.... 4,500
Feb. 6....	Feb. 20....
Feb. 7.... 4,100	Feb. 21.... 4,200
Feb. 8.... 4,110	Feb. 22.... 4,250
Feb. 9.... 4,125	Feb. 23.... 4,250
Feb. 10.... 4,125	Feb. 24.... 4,250
Feb. 11.... 4,155	Feb. 25.... 4,275
Feb. 12.... 4,350	Feb. 26.... 4,500
Feb. 13....	Feb. 27....
Feb. 14.... 4,175	Feb. 28.... 4,300

Total For Month100,965

The total 100,965 divided by 24 (the actual number of issues) shows the average number of copies printed per issue during the month to be 4,207 have been

I hereby certify that the above statement is correct according to the records on file in this office.
HARRY R. SMITH,
Circulation Manager.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 28th day of February, 1905.
J. P. STOKES,
Notary Public.

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E. W. BOWLER,
Agent.